

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION STATE OF GEORGIA

OFFICE OF DESIGN POLICY & SUPPORT INTERDEPARTMENTAL CORRESPONDENCE

FILE P.I.# 0003682 **OFFICE** Design Policy & Support
Forsyth County
GDOT District 1 - Gainesville **DATE** 1/22/2018
SR 20 from West of SR 371 to East of N Corners
Pkwy - Widening

FROM  for Brent Story, State Design Policy Engineer

TO SEE DISTRIBUTION

SUBJECT APPROVED LOCATION & DESIGN REPORT

Attached is the approved Location and Design Report with Notice of Location & Design Approval for the above subject project.

Attachment

DISTRIBUTION:

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION STATE OF GEORGIA

Location & Design Report

FILE P.I. No. 0003682
Forsyth County
SR 20 from West of SR 371 to East of N Corners Parkway

OFFICE Program Delivery
DATE December 15, 2017

FROM Kimberly W. Nesbitt, State Program Delivery Administrator

Kristal Stovall-Dixon

TO Brent A. Story, P.E., State Design Policy and Support Engineer

SUBJECT Request for Location and Design Approval

Description and Project Proposal:

Project PI No. 0003682 proposes to widen SR 20 from west of SR 371 to east of N Corners Parkway in Forsyth County. The project is part of a corridor of projects to widen SR 20 from Canton to Cumming (see attached Project Location map). The project will widen SR 20 to six lanes (three lanes in each direction) separated by a 20 ft raised median (see attached typical sections). There will be urban shoulders with curb and gutter and a 5ft sidewalk on both sides of the road. The planned Big Creek Greenway path travels down the east side of the Spot Road Connector, crosses SR 20 and continues east along the south side of SR 20 as a 10ft shared use path to approximately 1500 feet east of Crestbrook Drive. Auxiliary turn lanes will be added at major driveways and intersections. Access to side roads and driveways will be controlled by Restricted Crossing U-Turns (RCUTs) placed in the median; truck turnarounds are provided at certain RCUT locations based on consideration of adjacent facilities that may draw tractor trailers. The project resides within an MS4 area which requires that runoff from new impervious surfaces must be treated for water quality as well as water detention to prevent downstream flooding. To satisfy the MS4 requirements the project proposes to capture all pavement runoff through use of curb and gutter into a closed drainage system, which would pipe roadway runoff to permanent dry detention basins to treat for water quality as well as to detain and provide protection from downstream flooding. The proposed design speed is 45 mph. The proposed length is approximately 5.2 miles.

Concept Approval Date: 11/14/2017

Concept Update: N/A

Environmental Document: State Funded. No Environmental Document.

Public Involvement:

Five Public Involvement Open Houses (PIOH) were held for the entire corridor, including PIs 0014131, 0014132, 0014133, 0002862, and 0003682. The information presented reflects the comments received for the entire corridor.

- PIOH #1 (Scoping Meeting)
 - Canton - May 21, 2013 – 56 comments – 213 in attendance
 - Cumming - May 17, 2013 - 47 comments – 148 in attendance
 - Frequently heard suggestions include preserving community character/rural nature of the corridor, widening of SR 20 to four lanes and addition of turn lanes, looking for new location, bypass of Canton Marketplace congestion for through traffic, and requests to bring back the Northern Arc. The costs and benefits of rerouting SR 20 were also voiced. Attendees were vocal in their opposition to bike lanes along SR20. Attendees provided responses to survey questions regarding priorities, destinations, safety concerns, needed improvements, and travel habits along SR 20
- PIOH #2 – December 2013
 - Canton – 12/10/13 – 73 comments (26 for, 27 conditional, 13 against) – 259 in attendance
 - Cumming – 12/12/13 - 68 comments (12 for, 39 conditional, 12 against) – 273 in attendance
 - Comments were received both in support and against the various alternatives presented (widening existing, localized bypasses, new location facility, etc.).
- PIOH #3 – September 2015
 - Canton – 9/15/15 – 103 comments (20 for, 39 conditional, 10 against, 39 Unclear) – 487 in attendance
 - Cumming – 9/17/15 – 104 comments (36 for, 21 conditional, 3 against, 41 Unclear) – 440 in attendance
 - Primary comments noted that traffic is terrible and the improvements are much needed, safety is a huge concern, concern about property impacts, concern about the alternatives in Cumming, and support of widening SR 20.
- PIOH #4 – December 2016
 - Cumming – 12/6/16 – 31 comments (17 for, 10 conditional, 2 against, 2 Unclear) – 312 in attendance
 - Canton – 12/15/16 – 28 comments (8 for, 15 conditional, 1 against, 4 Unclear) – 513 in attendance
 - Overall, the project was extremely well received. The main areas of concern were regarding increased truck traffic, access with RCUTs and MUTs, right of way process, increased noise/pollution, historic properties, and not addressing the issues in Cumming.
- PIOH #5 – May 2017
 - Cumming – 5/8/17 – 57 comments (11 for, 15 conditional, 17 against, 14 Unclear) – 309 in attendance

- Canton – 5/16/17 – 82 comments (28 for, 22 conditional, 30 against, 2 Unclear) – 358 in attendance
- Comments were received both for and against 6 lanes and for and against RCUTS. There was concern about not addressing the issues in Cumming, need to restrict truck traffic, impacts to historic properties, change in character of the area, and right of way process/impacts.

Consistency with Approved Planning:

The design description as presented herein and submitted for approval is consistent with the approved Concept Report.

Recommendations:

Recommend that the location and design for the project be approved and that the attached Notice be approved for advertising.

CONCUR:

Thiel Patel
GDOT Director of Engineering

APPROVE:

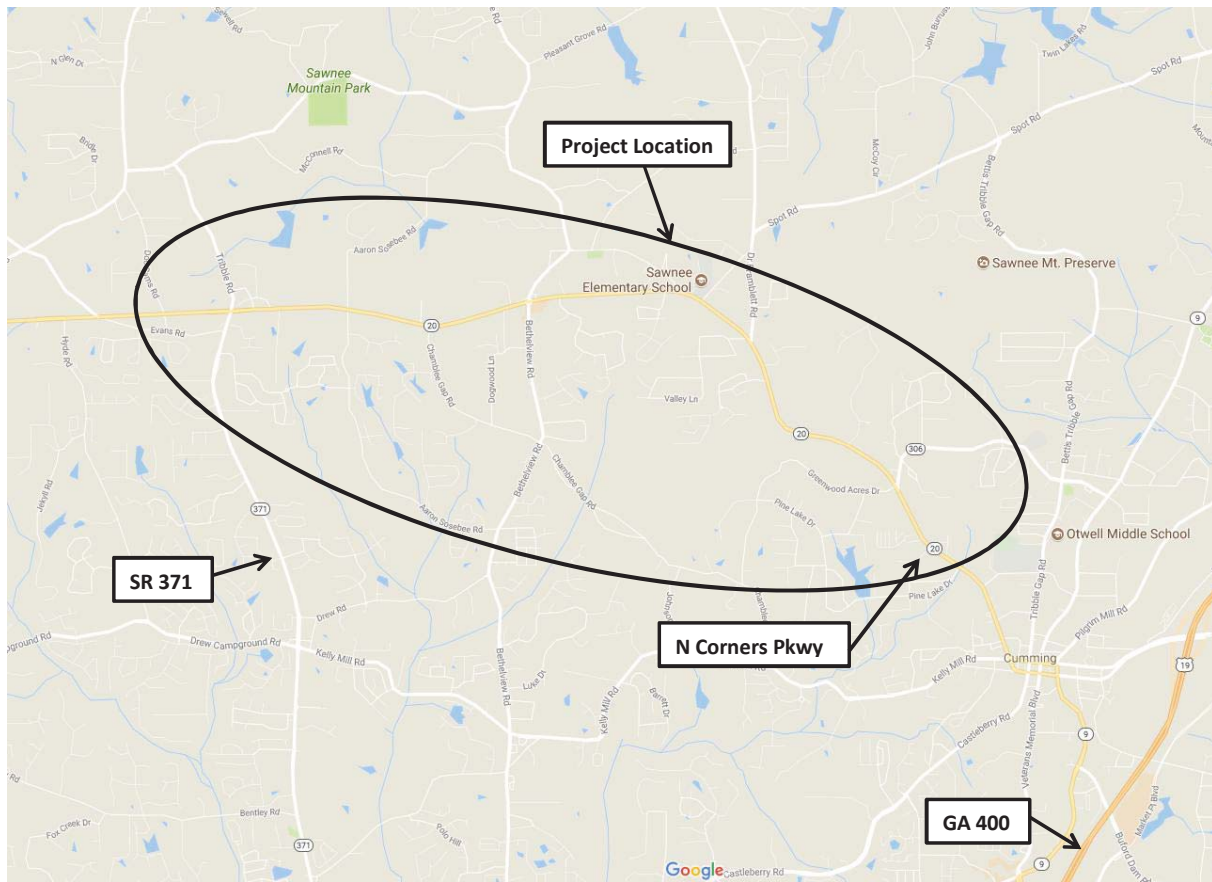
cc Mr. Little DR *1/11/18*
GDOT Chief Engineer Date

DATE OF LOCATION AND DESIGN APPROVAL *January 22, 2018*

Attachments:

- Project Location Map
- Notice of Location and Design Approval

PROJECT LOCATION MAP
PI 0003682



NOTICE OF LOCATION AND DESIGN APPROVAL

Forsyth County

P.I. No. 0003682

Notice is hereby given in compliance with Georgia Code 22-2-109 and 32-3-5 that the Georgia Department of Transportation has approved the Location and Design of this project.

The date of location and design approval is: January 22, 2018

PI 0003682 to widen SR 20 beginning just west of SR 371 and ending just east of N Corners Parkway. The project is located in Forsyth County. The project is located in Land Districts 1 and 3.

PI 0003682 will widen SR 20 to six lanes (three lanes in each direction) separated by a raised median. There will be urban shoulders with curb and gutter and a 5ft sidewalk on both sides of the road. The planned Big Creek Greenway path travels down the east side of the Spot Road Connector, crosses SR 20 and continues east along the south side of SR 20 as a 10ft shared use path to approximately 1500 feet east of Crestbrook Drive. Auxiliary turn lanes will be added at major driveways and intersections. Access to side roads and driveways will be controlled by Restricted Crossing U-Turns (RCUTs) placed in the median; truck turnarounds are provided at certain RCUT locations based on consideration of adjacent facilities that may draw tractor trailers.

Drawings or maps or plats of the proposed project, as approved, are on file and are available for public inspection at the Georgia Department of Transportation:

Scott Frederick, District 1, Area 1 Engineer
[Email:sfrederick@dot.ga.gov](mailto:sfrederick@dot.ga.gov)
2594 Gillsville Hwy
Gainesville, GA 30507
Phone: (770) 531-5882

Any interested party may obtain a copy of the drawings or maps or plats or portions thereof by paying a nominal fee and requesting in writing to:

Kimberly W. Nesbitt, State Program Delivery Administrator
Office of Program Delivery
Attn: Cleopatra James, Project Manager
[Email: cjames@dot.ga.gov](mailto:cjames@dot.ga.gov)
600 West Peachtree Street, 25th Floor
Atlanta, GA 30308
Phone: (404) 631-1546

Any written request or communication in reference to this project or notice SHOULD include the P.I. Number as noted at the top of this notice.